

written a column in tribute to Marvin Hammond. I would like to have it reprinted in the RECORD and call it to the attention of my colleagues and others.

[From the Shopper-News, July 21, 2008]

MISSING MARVIN

If ever there was a man who opted to wear out rather than rust out, it is Marvin Hammond.

He's retired again, but don't count on it sticking with Marvin.

A crisis in Maynardville left folks without water over the Fourth of July holiday. City officials asked Hallsdale-Powell Utility District for help, and Hammond was quick to respond. "Hook them up," he said, "and we'll work out the paperwork later."

"One man told me he had a shower for the first time in 10 days," Hammond said last week.

Utility districts network in order to sell water across systems when necessary. Maynardville Utility District had not tapped into HPUD's new water plant on Norris Lake. There are issues with water pressure and leaks up there, but these are engineering concerns—fixable.

Hammond had the vision to build a new water plant on Norris Lake and to expand the one on Melton Hill Lake. Hallsdale-Powell customers won't be running out of water. And Hammond leaves the district in a position to sell water to our neighbors.

Hammond was named president of HPUD in 2000. He took the title president emeritus last week as Darren Cardwell was elevated to the top job. Cardwell is just the third leader of HPUD, the district built by general manager Allan Gill of Powell.

Hammond, who earlier had retired from KUB, found a district with money in the bank and low rates; he left a district in debt with substantially higher rates.

Construction foreman Greg McCloud said it best: "Hallsdale was getting bigger (more customers), but we were not getting better."

Hammond set out to improve customer relations and to build partnerships with regulatory bodies such as the Environmental Protection Agency and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation. He replaced much of the 150 miles of 2-inch galvanized water line and looked for leaks that were draining off 39 percent of HPUD's treated water. He hired engineers and consultants to upgrade the wastewater system and put a halt to violations at the treatment plant.

Engineer Nick Jackson said no violations have been reported for 25 consecutive months, and HPUD will receive the Water Environment Association operational excellence award this week at the WEA conference in Knoxville. The award covers a 2-state region of Kentucky and Tennessee.

Hammond is credited with development of a long range strategic plan which includes expanding HPUD's service area.

In 1999, HPUD served 21,780 customers with physical plant assets of \$66 million.

Today, the district serves 28,200 customers with physical plant assets of \$144 million.

Sometimes we just get lucky.

Halls and Powell residents were blessed with the leadership of Allan Gill—a man with military bearing who brooked no nonsense and built a water system through grit and willpower.

Likewise, we were blessed with the leadership of Marvin Hammond—a man with vision for the future and the courage to raise the rates to pay for progress.

TRIBUTE TO THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 2008

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the important research it is doing. The federal government's investment in NIH research regularly pays tremendous dividends to the American taxpayer. Federal funding supports NIH—to conduct biomedical research at its Maryland campus as well as research conducted at hundreds of medical centers, independent research laboratories, and colleges and universities across the country. Today, I would like to highlight research being done at NIH to alleviate the economic and personal suffering caused by Alzheimer's disease.

Alzheimer's disease, one of the most frightening memory-robbing disorders, interferes with the lives of 2.5 to 5 million older Americans, including over 200,000 people under the age of 65. Individuals with Alzheimer's disease may have trouble recalling addresses, major events, and the names of their own family members. Making meals and managing finances can become difficult. Over time, problems with memory and thinking get even worse. Alzheimer's disease costs the United States almost \$150 billion in medical care and lost productivity each year. With an aging population, this number will continue to grow larger and larger. By the year 2030, Alzheimer's disease is predicted to affect 7.7 million people in the United States over the age of 65. By 2015, Medicare costs for beneficiaries with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias are expected to more than double from \$91 billion in 2005 to \$189 billion.

Fortunately, research funded by the NIH has helped generate new treatments that can aid memory loss. Studies determined that a brain afflicted with Alzheimer's disease contains decreased levels of acetylcholine, a chemical that aids in memory and thought. Based on this finding, researchers developed several medications now available, termed cholinesterase inhibitors, which attempt to maintain normal levels of acetylcholine and can aid memory, thinking, and functional abilities in some people with Alzheimer's disease. While the effects of these drugs tend to be fairly short-lived and they do not stop the progression of the disease, they can be very helpful to some patients with Alzheimer's disease.

Moreover, great progress has been made in understanding the brain abnormalities that underlie Alzheimer's disease, thanks to research involving genetics, biochemistry, and cell biology. Researchers are on the threshold of developing new treatments that target these flaws in an effort to preserve brain circuits and help maintain memory function in patients with Alzheimer's disease. New drugs are being developed that target different biological pathways, which, following years of basic science research, have also been implicated in memory. With continued study, scientists believe a variety of improved treatments will be able to aid more people with memory impairments for longer periods of time and perhaps prevent the onset of Alzheimer's disease or slow its progression.

We have so much more to learn about the brain, and NIH-funded researchers nationwide, including in my own state of Idaho, are working to understand how it functions and to identify potential new therapies and treatments. That national research commitment gives the millions of people suffering from Alzheimer's disease, and the millions more who care for them, hope that treatments for this devastating disease are on the horizon.

TRIBUTE TO ALISON CHAMBERS AND ELLIE SAVERY

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the efforts of two young citizens, Alison Chambers and Ellie Savery, in rescuing two boys in West Lake Okoboji in Iowa.

On Tuesday, July 15, at 1:30 p.m., Alison and Ellie noticed two swimmers calling for help in the choppy waters of West Lake Okoboji. The young women, trained lifeguards and swimmers on the Fort Dodge, Iowa High School team, reacted immediately and swam 25 yards out to the stranded swimmers. Moments later, the young women returned the two boys safely back to the dock. Many of the bystanders praised Ellie and Alison for their heroic rescue after they got out of the water.

The diligent effort of these young women is a testament to the bravery and compassion of Iowans; willing to do whatever is necessary for a neighbor in need. I commend them for their heroism and cooperation. I am honored to represent both of them in the United States Congress, and wish each of them health and happiness in the future.

RECOGNIZING LONNIE AND LIBBY WILLIAMS UPON THEIR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 2008

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today in recognition of Lonnie and Libby Williams Upon their 50th wedding anniversary.

Libby Barnes and Lonnie Williams began their courtship in 1956 in Milton, Florida. The two were introduced by Ms. Williams's cousin and immediately started dating. The couple recalls with fondness the "Toot N Tell It" drive-in restaurant they often frequented and remembers the days when their friends would congregate at the restaurant and "just talk."

At the time, Milton was still a small town—not the burgeoning city it is today—and, as the couple reminisces, "there wasn't a lot to do." Unperturbed by these geographic restrictions, the couple took advantage of the religious opportunities in the area and often attended the Pace Assembly of God Church together. After dating for 2 years, the couple was married on August 22, 1958.

The Williamses have been blessed with a wonderful, large family. With four children and